

AC.4424(3)

WINSLOW RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and of the

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

and

SURVEYOR

for the year

1969.

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

Cclr. H. North (to Sept.)
Cclr. Mrs. D.L. Maude, J.P. (from Oct.)
Cclr. H.J. Venn
Cclr. C.J. Dickins
Cclr. R.F. Bates
Cclr. W.J. Hanson
Cclr. Mrs. J.L. Micklem
Cclr. A.G. Curtis
Cclr. C.F.H. Grainge
Cclr. C.D. Kitchener
Cclr. J. Stanton
Cclr. R. Davies (Chairman of Council)
Cclr. R.J. Radwell
Cclr. J. Morton
Cclr. B.J.A. Groom
Cclr. Miss E.M. Johnson
Cclr. O.T. Cheshire
Cclr. J.H. Bonham
Cclr. E. Phillips
Cclr. Mrs. I. Marks
Cclr. A.J. Illing
Cclr. N.G. Bevan
Cclr. J.T.R. Phillips
Cclr. A.H. Wigley

REPRESENTING

Drayton Parslow.
Drayton Parslow
Dunton
East Claydon
Granborough
Great Horwood
Hoggeston
Hogshaw
Little Horwood
Mursley
Nash
Newton Longville
Newton Longville
North Marston
Shenley Brook End
Stewkley
Stewkley
Swanbourne
Tattenhoe
Whaddon
Winslow
Winslow
Winslow
Winslow

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS FOR 1969

Medical Officer of Health	Dr. P. Lavis, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Surveyor & Public Health Inspector	N.J. Shipp, M.A.P.H.I.
Deputy Surveyor & Public Health	
Inspector	T.J. Ayres, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.
Public Health Clerks	Mrs. F.V. Anderson.
	Mrs. D. Nicholls.

COMMITTEES

Public Health and Planning Committee

Chairman Cclr. C.D. Kitchener.
Vice Chairman Cclr. J. Morton.

Housing Committee

Chairman Cclr. H. North.
Cclr. Miss E.M. Johnson (from Sept.)
Vice Chairman Cclr. Miss E.M. Johnson.
Cclr. W.J. Hanson (from Sept.)

Finance, Rating and General Purposes Committee

Chairman Cclr. J. Morton.
Vice Chairman Cclr. J.T.R. Phillips.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the annual report for 1969.

As far as the vital statistics are concerned there is little change from previous years, similar trends continuing. The figures are too small for any firm conclusions to be drawn from these, and in some cases they are not a true reflection of the general state. However, more sophisticated and reliable data collection methods are being evolved which should result in more accurate and useful figures in the future.

The main feature of the infectious diseases sphere was an abortive outbreak of influenza during the winter of 1968-69 which never really became established. A further visit by the Hong Kong influenza variant occurred towards the end of the year, and the second outbreak reached epidemic proportions by the second week of December. Symptoms were classical in type and affected especially the adult section of the population.

I was anticipating being able to report on this occasion that sufficient measles vaccination had been carried out to prevent any further epidemics. Difficulties in the supply of suitable vaccine brought the programme to a stop and at the end of the year there was no definite prospect when it would be resumed.

We continue to regard health education as an important part of a Health Department's work. There appear to be encouraging signs on the horizon that people are beginning to pay more sensible attention to matters of health. Concern is expressed about known and possible hazards being created by society as a by-product of "technological progress". The solution to these problems will largely depend on action by society as a whole. Nevertheless, we still have to convince some people that they deliberately put themselves at risk by their own actions. To name but two activities, cigarette smoking and dietary over indulgence.

Lung cancer can, after long and unpleasant illness, cause premature death, preventing many from receiving one penny of their pensions. We must recognise that this form of drug addiction is fostered and maintained by advertising techniques that result in people making curious rationalisations to explain away their actions. Many still need convincing that over-weight is also hazardous. The warning signs in early middle age are too often ignored. Apart from excessive carbohydrate intake the wisdom of consuming quantities of refined sugar at the present rates leads one to suspect that coronary heart disease in particular will continue to increase in the future.

If sugar and tobacco had had to be submitted to the Committee on the Safety of Drugs, they would have been rejected with far more reason than was the case for cyclamate withdrawal.

An encouraging sign is that there is a slight move towards greater participation in sport. A few years ago there seemed to be a danger that the Nation was becoming chair-bound whether at home, work or in cars. The value of encouraging physical activity by ensuring adequate sporting facilities can be measured beyond pounds, shillings and pence, as there is a concomitant improvement in mental attitude in addition.

We must reach the generation that feels it has missed these opportunities- the forty-plus age group may well feel that they are too old to start and they must be convinced that slowing up is not an inevitable accompaniment of growing up.

I have to report that the Mobile Radiography Unit has now withdrawn its regular service in the area. It has proved its value in the past and this reduction in service will cause some difficulty to people living in an area where there are few alternative facilities and public transport so inadequate.

I am,

Your Obedient Servant,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'H. Harris', with a horizontal line drawn underneath the name.

Medical Officer of Health.

VITAL STATISTICS

			<u>1969</u>	<u>1968</u>
<u>Births</u>				
Live Births:	(Legitimate)	Males.....	86	82
		Females	83	86
	(Illegitimate)	Males	1	3
		Females	3	4
		Total	173	175
Still Births			4	2
Birth Rate (corrected) Winslow			20.2	20.9
England and Wales			16.3	16.9

Deaths

Deaths:	Males	78	55
	Females	75	83
	Total	153	138
Death rate (corrected) Winslow		10.0	10.6
England and Wales		11.9	11.9

Miscellaneous

Area (in acres)	36,436	
Population	9770	9540
Number of inhabited houses at 31st December 1969 according to rate book	3,310	3,230
Rateable Value	£304,717	£284,591
Sum represented by penny rate	£1,270	£1,190

Principal Causes of Death

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Malignant Neoplasm	19	12	31
Vascular lesions of nervous system	10	18	28
Heart Disease	23	18	41
Other Circulatory disease	3	6	9
Pneumonia	4	4	8
Bronchitis	5	4	9
Accidents	3	2	5
Other Causes	11	11	22.
	78	75	153

Infectious Diseases Notified

Measles	-	94	Dysentery (Sonne)	-	7	Scarlet Fever	-	1.
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PERSONAL HEALTH SERVICES

Ambulance Service Administered by Bucks County Council from Aylesbury with a sub-station at Bletchley serving the north of the area.

Hospital Under the Oxford Regional Hospital Board. Patients are generally treated at Aylesbury. Outpatient facilities are also available in certain specialities at Bletchley, Buckingham and Wolverton.

Laboratory (Public Health) - Oxford.

District Nursing/Midwifery Area Superintendent - Mrs. O.M. Riley at Area Health Office, Bletchley. Four nurses are stationed within the district.

Social Workers (Medical, Welfare, Blind, Mental Health) Area Officer - Mr. P.K. Smith at Area Health Office.

Home Help Service Area Organiser - Mrs. E.N. Franklin (At Area Office). Assistant Organiser (Winslow District) Mrs. Frances.

Industrial Unit Whaddon Way, Bletchley.

Child Welfare Clinics Clinics are held at regular intervals at Winslow, Stewkley and Newton Longville in hired halls. The mobile clinic visits Great Horwood, Little Horwood, Mursley, Drayton Parslow, Swanbourne, Nash and Whaddon.

Dental Clinic Treatment is offered to children and expectant mothers at Bletchley, Buckingham and Aylesbury. In addition the dentist visits schools regularly.

Health Education Area Organiser - Miss M.B. Hayward at Area Health Office.

School Health Service Administered from Area Health Office, Bletchley. This includes arrangements for examination of pupils in accordance with the Education Act, 1944, ascertainment of handicap and arranging appropriate treatment. The Child Guidance Clinic is situated at Whalley Drive, Bletchley, B.C.G. vaccination against tuberculosis is carried out in the schools as well as booster doses of polio, diphtheria and tetanus antigens.

Children Department Area Child Care Officer: Miss J.M. Walker. (At Area Office).

Health Visiting Superintendent - Mrs. D.L. Marrett at Area Health Office. Four Health Visitors (some of whom combine their duties with general nursing) are stationed in the district.

ANNUAL REPORT
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A - SEWERAGE

Existing Sewers and Disposal Works

With the exception of the heavily overloaded works at Newton Longville all other works continued to operate satisfactorily during the year. Fortunately no further trouble was experienced with sewer surcharging at Spring Lane, Great Horwood. It is to be hoped that the cleansing of the sewers has proved sufficiently beneficial and that the proposed overflow sewer may not now be needed.

Schemes

During the year work commenced on the Whaddon, Nash and Newton Longville Schemes and good progress was made.

B - PUBLIC CLEANSING

Refuse Collection and Disposal

Throughout the year the weekly collection service was maintained, The Bonus Scheme has now been operating very satisfactorily for four years and has resulted in a minimum of labour changes. With the continued growth of the district, however, it is difficult to imagine that we shall be able to continue for much longer on the present basis. Some further thought will have to be given to the problem.

At the beginning of the year the new tip site at Stewkley was finally acquired and work put in hand to bring it into use. A tracked bulldozer was purchased and controlled tipping started in April.

At Little Horwood during the year we continued to receive deposits of soil for the eventual levelling off and seeding of the site.

Streets Cleansing - Winslow

The only highways cleansed by the Council are as follows and these together with the Market Square are done at the latter end of each week. A litter collection is also carried out in the High Street on Mondays.

- (a) High Street
- (b) Station Road
- (c) Buckingham Road
- (d) Sheep Street
- (e) Horn Street

C - BUILDING CONTROL

Building control throughout the district is exercised by the Council. During the year 178 applications were received. A large proportion of time continues to be spent on visits and inspections to ensure compliance with the Building Regulations.

D - PLANNING CONTROL

Under the Delegation Agreement made between the Council and the County Council certain functions of the Town and Country Planning Acts are exercised by the District Council.

During the year 210 planning applications were deposited with the Council.

The number of applications received during the ten years prior to 1969, were as follows:-

<u>Year</u>	<u>Number of Applications</u>
1968	233
1967	247
1966	226
1965	236
1964	213
1963	179
1962	193
1961	198
1960	125
1959	121

E - SWIMMING POOLS

There is one swimming pool in the district (at Stewkley) and this is privately owned. It is, however, open to the public during the season and regular sampling of the water takes place both by the owner and the Council to ensure that a satisfactory standard is maintained.

F - RODENT CONTROL

The control of rodents throughout the district is undertaken by one operative who is employed jointly by Wing and Winslow Rural District Councils. During the year the following inspections and treatments were carried out.

	<u>Surveys</u>	<u>Treatments</u>
Dwellinghouses	1296 (57)	194
Agricultural Properties	176 (11)	40
Business Properties	49 (8)	16

The figures in brackets are the numbers of properties surveyed as the result of notification of infestation. The Council's refuse tips at Little Horwood and Stewkley and all sewage disposal works have been regularly inspected and treated when necessary.

During the year the usual testing and treating of public sewers took place and only very minor infestations had to be dealt with.

G - OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

The number of registered premises at the end of 1969 was 34. All of these received a general inspection during the year, and complied with the Act.

As a result of the changed status of the Post Office responsibility for enforcement of the Act in premises vested in the Post Office now rests with the Local Authority instead of H.M. Factory inspectorate. Two premises in the District were, therefore, added to the number of premises registered.

The total number of employees employed in registered premises was 224.

H - HOUSING

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS (DISCRETIONARY AND STANDARD)

During the year no applications for discretionary grants were received.

During the year the Council agreed to make Standard Grants to a maximum of £8,122.

1968	£5,013 - 0 - 0d.
1967	£3,917 - 10 - 0d.
1966	£2,744 - 17 - 6d.
1965	£2,319 - 16 - 6d.
1964	£5,160 - 10 - 0d.

	<u>1969</u>	<u>1968</u>
(a) Number of applications received	32	27
(b) Number of applications approved	31	27
(c) Number of applications withdrawn	0	0
(d) Number of applications refused	1	0

Of the above applications nineteen were higher limit grants.

COUNCIL HOUSES

The number of houses owned by the Council at the 1st April 1970 was:-

Pre-War	212.
Post-War	593.
Total	805.

UNFIT HOUSES

(a) Number of houses demolished during the year	6.
(b) Number of houses closed during the year	0.

I - WATER SUPPLIES

Water supply throughout the district is the responsibility of the Bucks Water Board and I am indebted to them for the following information.

1. Supply throughout the district has been at all times satisfactory as regards both quantity and quality.
2. Regular samples of water were taken during the year and the results of these indicated that the water supplied conformed to the high standard of that required by any public supply authority.
3. There is no tendency to plumbo-solvency.

All parishes in the district are supplied with water from public mains and apart from a few isolated farms and other properties the majority of the population are served.

J - FACTORIES ACT, 1961

The following inspections were carried out during the year:-

	No. on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Occs. Pros.
Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6, are to be enforced by Local Authorities	3	1	NIL	NIL
Factories not included in the above in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	17	10	NIL	NIL
	20	11	NIL	NIL

K - FOOD

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960.

Premises throughout the district falling within the scope of the Regulations are summarised as follows:-

CATEGORY	No.	Fitted to comply with Reg.16. (Wash Basins)	To which Reg.19 applies. (Sinks)	Fitted to comply with Reg.19 (Sinks)
Gen. Stores	31	31	31	31
Butchers	5	4	5	5
Greengrocers	3	3	3	3
Confectioners	9	9	-	-
Fishmongers	2	2	2	2
Public Houses	26	26	26	26
Cafes	3	3	3	3
Bakeries	2	2	2	2
Bread/Cakes	1	1	1	0
Works Canteen	1	1	1	1
School Kitchens	12	12	12	12
	95	94	86	85

Slaughterhouses

There are no slaughterhouses within the district.

